



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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October 10, 2007

UTAH BULLETIN UT300-08-02

**SUBJECT: FY08 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP)
TIMELINE FIRST QUARTER – (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

Expiration Date: September 30, 2008

Purpose: To announce Fiscal Year 2008 EQIP action dates.

ACTION REQUIRED

All contract obligations for EQIP will be completed by:

December 31, 2007

(See Timeline, Attachment A)

NRCS has screened and prioritized “*Batch One*” applicants that signed up prior to the June 1, 2007, deadline, AND those that were deferred from FY2007. “*Batch Two*” applications (taken between June 1, 2007 and November 2, 2007) will be ranked, as described in *Attachment A*. Since June 1, NRCS staff has been providing conservation planning assistance to the highest priority applicants, working with FSA to ensure that eligibility paperwork is on file and assisting producers in completion of forms (see *Attachment B*).

Information on obtaining Regional Assistant Chief (RAC) approval for applications over \$150,000 will be forwarded to STC-FOs, when received from the RAC. **ASTC-FOs should keep in mind that these applications will need to be reviewed and obligated by the RAC prior to the obligation deadline.**

District Conservationists will announce the FY 2008 delivery timeline. News releases are forthcoming.

Note that there is no authorization for EQIP – Ground and Surface Water Conservation (GSWC) funding past FY 2007. Employees are **NOT** to accept applications for GSWC.

Contact: Lisa Coverdale, ASTC-Programs, (801) 524-4565 or lisa.coverdale@ut.usda.gov

/S/

RON DAVIDSON

Acting State Conservationist

Attachment

Distribution: E

Attachment A
FY08 EQIP Timeline First Quarter
(Subject to change)

- **June 1 – ongoing**
District Conservationists provide FSA a list of high and medium priority applications, work with producers to identify resource objectives, and establish RMS plans.
- **October 11**
"Train the Trainer" (Area Technical and Programs staffs)
- **October 12 (and thereafter as needed)**
Area Teams deliver AERT training to Field Offices, as directed by ASTC-FOs
- **October 15**
Payment Schedule released and uploaded.
- **October 16 through November 2 - BATCH ONE**
Using the Protracts application date as a filter, Field Offices will enter all ELIGIBLE applications taken by June 1 AND those deferred into FY08 AERT. Applications taken AFTER June 1 or not meeting all producer and land eligibility requirements are not to be ranked during this time.
- **November 2**
Application cutoff for FY08 - Any application taken after this date will be considered for FY09. All FY09 applications will require an RMS plan in order to be considered for funding in FY09. Field offices continue to work with CEDs in updating eligibility for high and medium priority applications.
- **November 5**
Field offices will be notified of successful applicants in Batch One.
- **November 5 through November 9 - BATCH TWO**
Field Offices will rank all ELIGIBLE applications taken after June 1 AND those pre-June 1 applications in which eligibility has since been resolved (labeled "Batch One") into the FY08 AERT. Applications not meeting all producer and land eligibility requirements are not to be ranked during this time.
- **November 14**
Field offices will be notified of successful applicants in Batch Two.
- **November 31**
Deadline to move funded applications to "pre-approved"
- **December 31**
Deadline to obligate FY08 funds